18

SPRAGUE

Mowing Machine Co.

OFFICE AND MANUFACTORY,

Sprague Street, Providence, R. I.

WILLIAM SPRAGUE, President.

AMASA SPRAGUE, Treasurer. C. H. PERKINS, General Manager.

Compliments of
Graham Emlen Wassmore
431 Market St

CENTRAL FALLS, R. I.
E. L. FREEMAN, STEAM JOB PRINTER.
1871.

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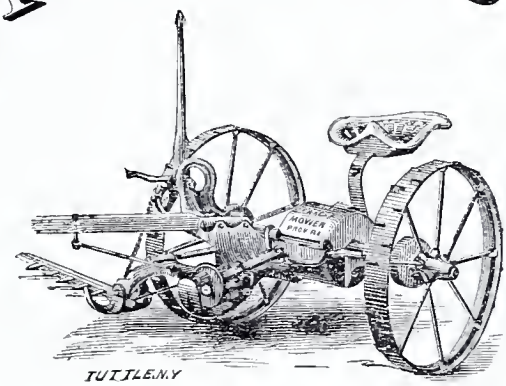
SPRAGUE



MOWING MACHINE CO.

WILLIAM SPRAGUE,
PRESIDENT.

AMASA SPRAGUE,
TREASURER.

C. H. PERKINS,
GENERAL MANAGER.

OFFICE AND MANUFACTORY,

Sprague Street, Providence, R. I.

All Communications must be addressed to

Sprague Mowing Machine Co. Lock Box 311, Providence, R. I.

CENTRAL FALLS, R. I.
E. L. FREEMAN, STEAM JOB AND LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTER.
1871.

Advantages

1. The M

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INSIDE VIEW OF MACHINE S

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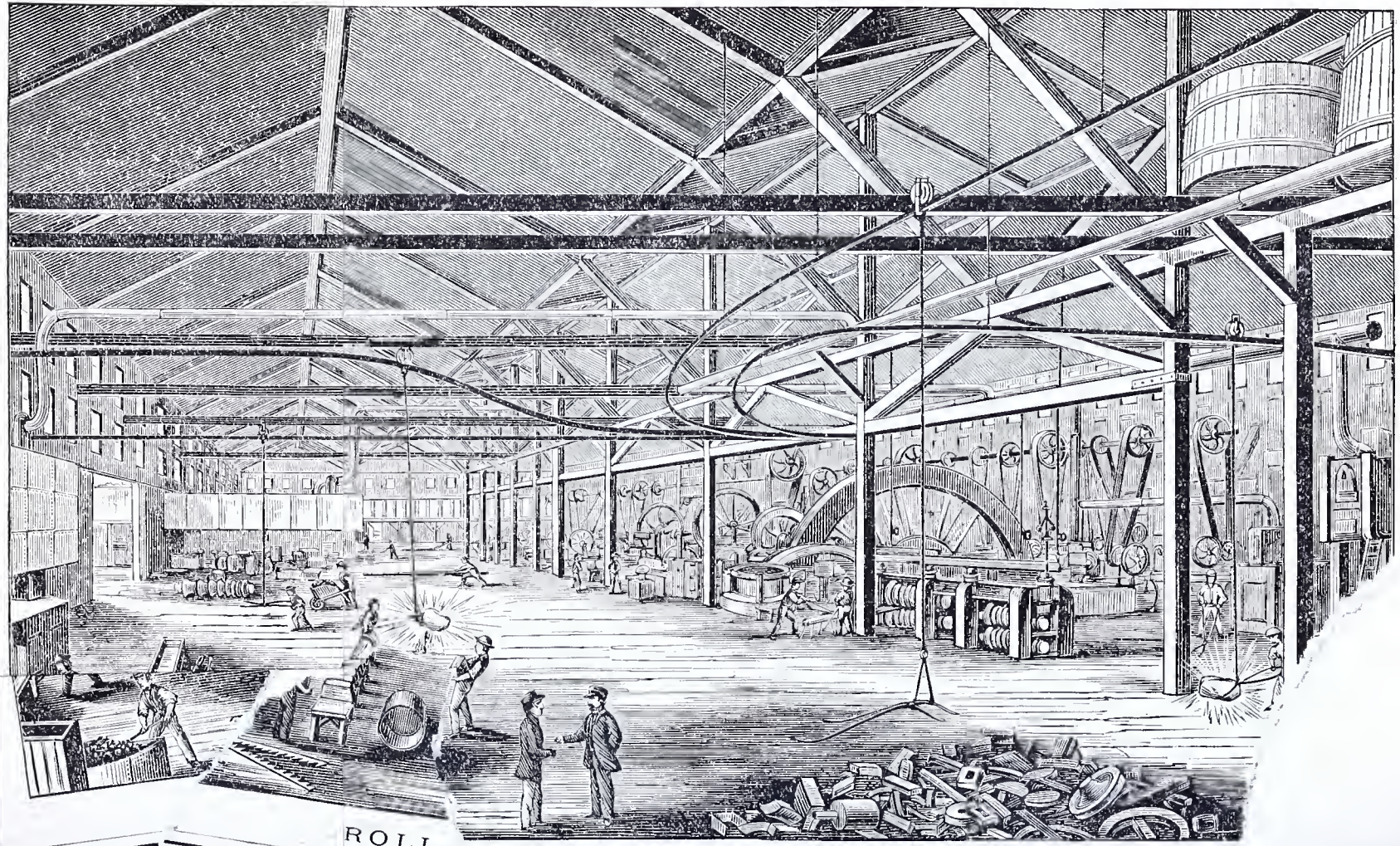


ROLL ING MILL AND FORGING SHOP.

Advantages peculiar to the Sprague Mower.

1. The Machine is constructed entirely of Iron and Steel, without any woodwork except the Pole and its attachments.

2. The Frame is an Iron Case, cast in one piece, with the bearings for the Shafts cast on it.

3. The Shafting is of the best refined iron, and running as it does in bearings cast on the Frame, it cannot get out of line from any warping of Frame or loosening of Bolts; thereby avoiding the trouble which so often occurs from those causes on *all* wooden frames and all iron frames that are made of separate pieces.

4. The Gears are cast from the best American iron, and are the strongest set of Mowing Machine gears in use; they are arranged in a mechanical and compact manner within the Frame and are completely encased; by this arrangement they are protected from dirt and grass, and it is impossible for the operator to be injured by them.

5. But four Bolts (and those with check or double nuts) are required on the frame, to hold in their proper places the Cover, Cap, Seat, Shafting and Gears. The Cover is hinged to the Frame, and by simply raising it, access is readily obtained to all the working parts of the Machine.

6. Almost the entire weight is carried on the wheels while mowing, thereby giving the greatest possible amount of driving power in proportion to the weight of the Machine.

7. The Machine weighing but 600 lbs., is one of the lightest, but from its peculiar construction, one of the strongest and most effective.

8. Having the most simply constructed Lifting Central Draft properly arranged, the labor upon the team is much lessened, and the liability of damage to the Machine from striking obstructions is greatly reduced.

9. The Machine has been so carefully constructed and balanced, with a view of avoiding side draft, that no device is necessary to conceal that which does not exist.

10. The Frame and Gearing are placed in the centre of the Machine, bringing the weight equally upon the drive wheels, thus obtaining a more steady motion with less shaking of the driver.

11. The apparatus for working and handling the Cutter Bar is the most complete, simple and efficient of any in use; with the single Lever, without moving from his seat, the operator can bring the Cutter Bar to a perpendicular position and secured for the road, and with the same lever, unfasten and lower the Bar to the proper position for mowing, the whole operation requiring not more than ten seconds.

12. The Seat and Tool Box are combined, the Tool Box forming the base of the Seat and the Seat forming the cover of the box. By a slot in the bottom of the base, the Seat can be moved forward or back, according to the weight of the driver, thus relieving the horse's neck.

13. The Lever for throwing the Machine in and out of gear is worked entirely with the foot, leaving the hands of the operator at liberty.

14. The Cutting apparatus is regarded as the best ever placed upon a mower. Neither pains nor expense have been spared to have the material of the best quality and the workmanship of the first class.

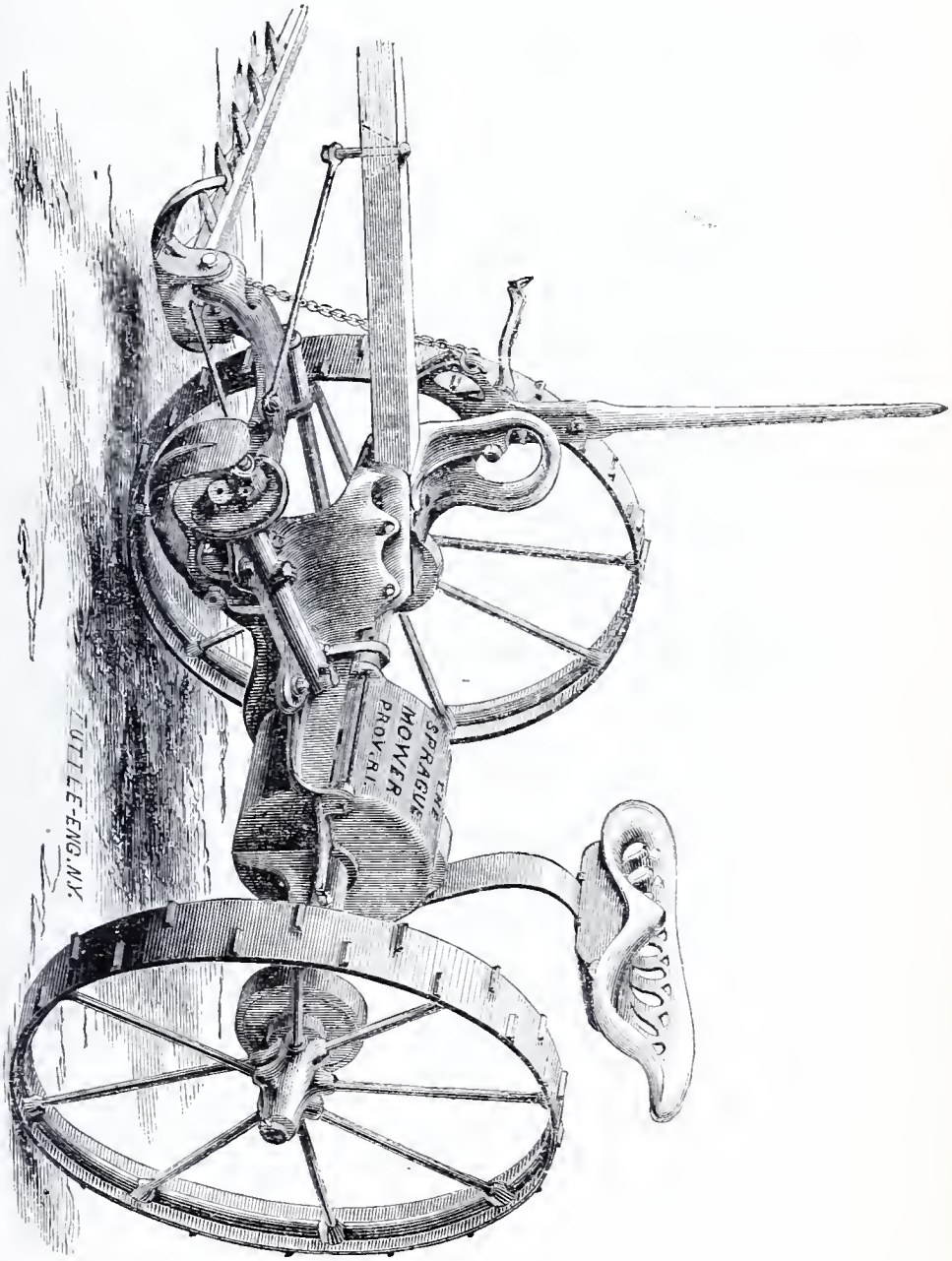
15. The Sprague Mower is pre-eminently *the* light draft machine for the following reasons: The Gears are so carefully made and mechanically arranged; the Shafts are so exactly fitted into the solid bearings, both being so completely protected from dirt or grass, that they run with much less than the usual amount of friction; the Wheels and Gears are so correctly timed, and work in unison with such a perfectly constructed Cutting apparatus, that the amount of power used and required to cut the grass, is reduced to the smallest possible limit.

16. The Sprague Mower is the most durable machine offered to the public. In order to satisfy ourselves on this point, so important to the success of the Mower, we had one of the Machines, which had cut four hundred tons of hay, (equal to the ordinary work on a farm in four years) brought to our works and taken entirely apart, to ascertain the parts most worn. The Scythes were worn entirely out, but the working parts of the Machine were nearly or quite as good as new, and we challenge any party to produce a Machine that has done as much work without showing *double the amount of wear*. Below we give the statement of the Farmer who used the Machine, and who has charge of the largest farm in this State:—

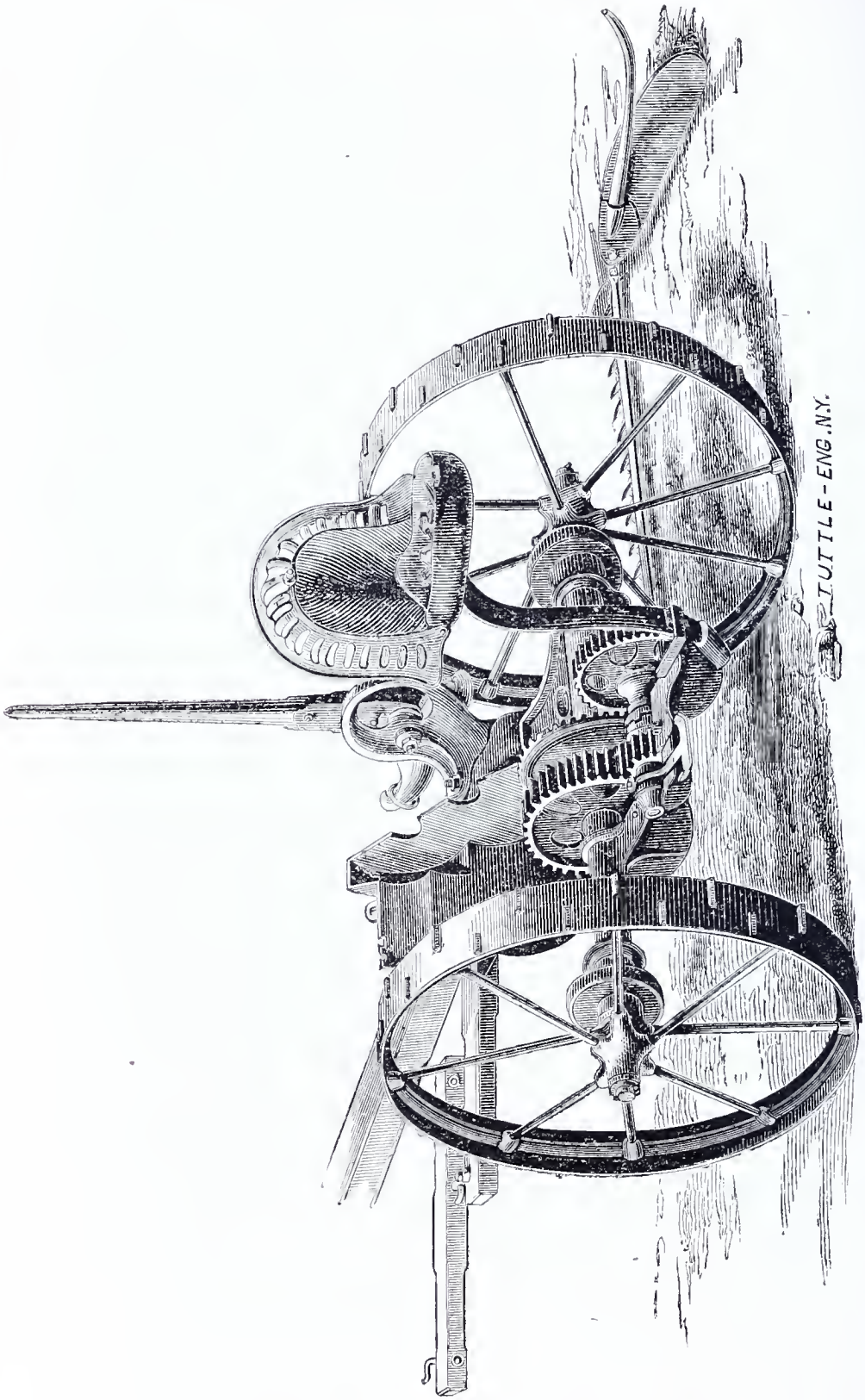
> "During the season of 1870, the Sprague Mower, No. 328, was used under my direction and supervision to cut at least four hundred tons of hay.
>
> (Signed:) GEO. WELLMAN."

17. Each Machine, after it has been set up, has power applied to it by means of a belt on one of the driving wheels, and is run for fifteen minutes at double the rate of speed that would be required when mowing. In this way the perfection of every Machine is insured and its practical working ascertained before leaving the shop.

18. Every part of the Machine is made in Duplicate, any one piece fitting all Machines.



Front View of the Sprague Mower.



Back and Side View, showing Working Parts.

The One Horse Sprague Mower.

THIS MACHINE is new and is built expressly for use with one horse. Some manufacturers have built a Mower to be used either with one or two horses, as the convenience of the farmer may require. This has proved to be a mistaken course, as a Mower designed for two horses must necessarily be stronger and heavier to withstand without breakage the power exerted by the team than one to be used with one horse. Another point is that when using a single horse on a Machine, built for two, the labor for the horse is too hard. The impression exists therefore, that a one horse machine cannot be built that will work as well with one horse as the regular machine does with two horses. We have determined to correct this wrong impression by building a truly practical One Horse Mower.

Our thills or shafts are firm and strong, yet have a neat and tasteful appearance, and have been pronounced by many mowing machine men the best that have ever been attached to a Mower.

We have taken the greatest care in the construction of the machine that the horse, inside shoe and right hand drive wheel shall all move in the cleared track. The Inside Shoe is of malleable iron, combining lightness with strength, and allowing the use of a Cutting apparatus weighing less than one half of that used in the Two Horse Mower. These important advantages, taken in connection with the strong points of the two horse machine, which are all included in the One Horse Mower, make it *the* light machine of the world.

All who wish to cut their grass with one horse, should, before purchasing, see the Light Sprague Mower, the only really practical one horse mower in the world.

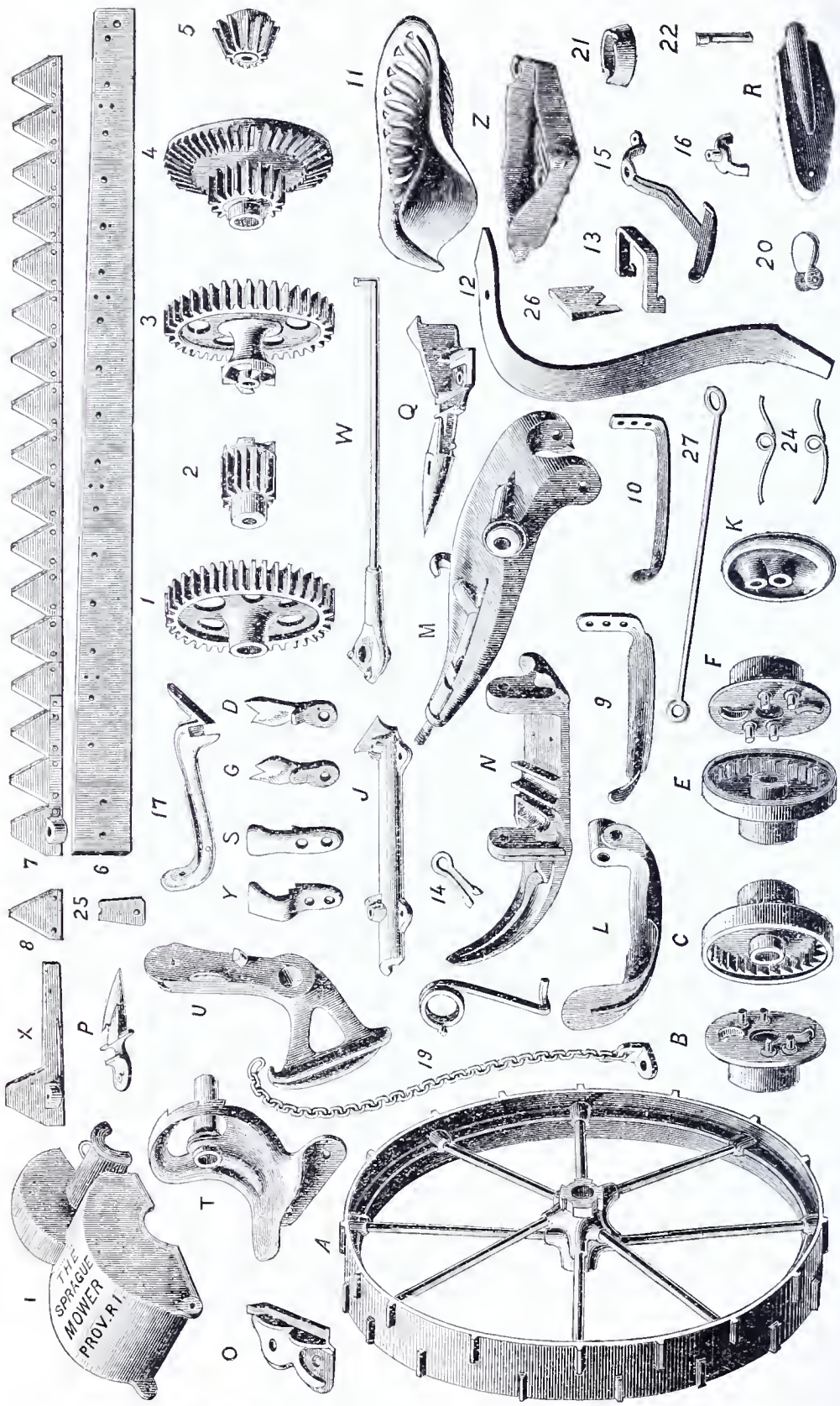


Diagram of Parts of the Sprague Mower.

Premiums Awarded to the Sprague Mower, 1870.

DIPLOMA FROM THE AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL INTERNATIONAL STATE FAIR OF PENNSYLVANIA, held at Pittsburg, awarded as a Special Premium to the

SPRAGUE MOWER,

in competition with "Champion," "Climax," "Wood," "World," "Etna," "Russell," "Acme," "Buckeye," "Kirby," "Clipper," "Quaker," and ten other Mowers, the same being

THE HIGHEST PREMIUM AWARDED.

CASH PREMIUM at Lancaster County Fair,.... Pennsylvania.

FIRST PREMIUM at Bellefonte Centre County, "

FIRST PREMIUM at Lock Haven, Clinton County, "

FIRST PREMIUM at Huntington, Huntington County, "

FIRST PREMIUM at Camden County Fair, "

FIRST PREMIUM AT THE VERMONT STATE FAIR.

TEN MACHINES COMPETING FOR THE PREMIUM.

THE SPRAGUE MOWER was exhibited in competition with ten or twelve of the best Mowing Machines of the country at the Vermont State Fair, held at Burlington, September, 1870, and received an Award seldom if ever granted to a new machine. The very able and intelligent Committee reported as follows:

"In the absence of any opportunity for testing the Machines, we labored under some little embarrassment, as all seemed to be possessed of very much merit, but taking into consideration the apparent strength, durability, compactness of form, the perfect enclosing of the gears within the case or frame of the

machine, the well arranged cutting bar, the ease with which it can be raised, lowered and unfolded without leaving the seat, and the direct lifting draft, we have awarded to the SPRAGUE MOWER, entered by O. A. Hillman, and manufactured by the Sprague Mowing Machine Company, of Providence, R. I., the FIRST PREMIUM of $20.00, and a DIPLOMA."

E. CLEAVELAND,
B. F. DEANE,
O. S. BLISS,
} COMMITTEE.

Highest Prize Awarded at the Fair of the Connecticut River Valley.

TEN MACHINES COMPETING.

At the Fair of the Hampshire, Hampden and Franklin Counties, held at Northampton, Mass., October 6th and 7th, 1870, the Committee unanimously awarded the FIRST PREMIUM to

THE SPRAGUE MOWER,

the Second to the "Granite State;" the Third to the "Buckeye," and the Fourth to the "Wood."

Diploma Awarded by Prospect Park Fair Ground Association.

At the First Annual Fair held at Prospect Park Fair Ground, Brooklyn, Long Island, from October 11th to 15th, 1870, a DIPLOMA was awarded to the SPRAGUE MOWER by the Prospect Park Fair Ground Association.

First Premium Awarded at the Hampden County Fair.

At the Hampden County Fair, held at Springfield, Mass., October 4th and 5th, 1870, a FIRST PREMIUM was given to the SPRAGUE MOWER.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

New Bedford, Mass., Sept. 20, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gentlemen:—James H. Sherman, of New Bedford, Mass., says he used a pair of light horses, say 850 lbs., in all kinds of grass, they did the work *easily*, never showing signs of fatigue; that he was not to any expense for repairs, and thinks he has got the best Mower in Bristol County.

Leander Thomas, of North Dartmouth, speaks in the most extravagant terms of praise, says he repeatedly cut heavy grass with only one horse on a two horse machine, and then beat the Buckeye in the lot "over the fence." He was to no repairs at all, and never saw the machine he would give his Sprague for.

Philip Cornell, of South Dartmouth, was to twenty-five cents repairs. Says his machine did well; he was strongly urged to buy another make, only decided at the last moment to take the Sprague, and is not sorry; it beats any he ever used for ease of draft, of management, and quality of work done.

Respectfully, JOHN E. ALMY.

Providence, August, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—We are willing to say almost any thing about the "Sprague" which we bought of you, as we think it far ahead of anything we have ever seen in the shape of a mower. We have found nothing to compare with the "Sprague" in compactness and simplicity of construction; and after a thorough trial, we wish to say it is the lightest draft mower we ever saw. Our Sprague Mower has been used to cut the grass of several parties, and they all say that the work has been more perfect than in former seasons when other machines were used.

Truly yours, A. & B. WAITE.

North Woodstock, August 8th, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—In regard to the Sprague Mower, it does its work well and is easy for the team, and I think is as good a mower as there is, and think that you might sell more here another year.

Yours respectfully, JOHN B. HEALY.

Cranston, August 22d, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gentlemen:—During the haying season of 1870, one of the Sprague Mowers has been used under my direction and supervision to cut about 400 tons of hay. We had thick fine grass, heavy timothy, and badly lodged clover, and the machine worked perfectly in all, and without any expense for repairs.

I have used all the leading machines, including the "Manny," "Union," "Buckeye," "Clipper," "American," "Ohio" and "Woods & Co.," but have never cut our hay as easily or with as little expense. The Sprague, compared with the other machines, is more simple and compact, and can be handled with less strain of driver or team. This Machine, No. 328, seemed but little the worse for wear except the scythes, and by your request, I have returned it to your works, so that by careful examination you may be able to judge of its durability.

GEORGE WELLMAN.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—During the past haying season I used one of your Mowing Machines, and am happy to state that its working has been very satisfactory indeed, and I have more than realized my anticipations as to its being the best mower in the market, particularly on account of its simplicity and the good quality of work done.

H. J. WHITING.

Cranston, August 12, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—I have used one of your Sprague Mowers in all kinds of grass during this year, and take pleasure in saying that it has proved entirely satisfactory, and I consider it the best machine I have seen. Have used it in both rocky, uneven and level ground, and find it works tip top on all, and I shall take pleasure in recommending it to all who want a *good* Mower.

ANDREW H. SHELDON.

Abington, Mass., Oct. 5, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—The Mowing Machine which I bought of you this season has given me first rate satisfaction, and consider it one of the best mowing machines I have ever seen as regards simplicity, durability and all the good qualities requisite for a good mowing machine.

Yours truly, JOHN A. PEAL.

Providence, August 9, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—The Sprague Mower which I purchased of you this season has fully satisfied me. I have used it on several different farms and have been able to do first rate work; have had no breakages, and recommend the machine for strength, durability, convenience of handling, and light of draft.

CHAS. JORDAN.

North Uxbridge, Mass., August 12, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gentlemen:—Having used one of your Mowing Machines during the past season, I would say that never in my mowing machine experience have I operated, seen or heard of a mower that can compete with yours in points of durability, simplicity, ease of management, light draft, and quality of work done. You are welcome to refer to me at any time.

Yours truly, ISRAEL SABEN.

West Sutton, Mass., Aug. 23d, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Dear Sirs:—I have used your One Horse Mower this summer and consider it to be most emphatically the Machine of Machines combined and contained, so to speak, *in a nutshell.* There are so many advantages connected with its working that I can scarcely specify, but point out a few. It *never clogs*, will start anywhere easily, is light, and of easy draft. I have a horse seventeen years old, weighing, perhaps, 900 lbs., which worked in it admirably; and another, younger, weighing 700 lbs., that managed it equally as well. My son, seventeen years old, has been unable to walk without crutches or canes for nearly a year, but he used the machine with the greatest ease, doing all my mowing through the season. I think the machine *cannot be surpassed.*

Yours respectfully, NATHAN WATERS.

Johnston, R. I., August 11th, 1870.

Messrs. W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gentlemen:—I send my boy in this morning with the money for the Sprague Mower, and I have never paid for a farming tool so willingly. I tell you, gentlemen, it is the best Mower in the world, in my opinion. It stands rocks and stumps without winking, and cuts all kinds of grass well, while it works easy for man and team. No more "Wood's" or "Clippers" in this neighborhood.

Yours in haste, JACOB F. BARTEN.

Smithfield, August 13th, 1870.

W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gentlemen:—I am happy to say to you that the Sprague Mower which I purchased of you in June, 1870, worked to my satisfaction, and in my judgment, owing to the simplicity of its structure, is one of the best machines now in use. After a trial of one season of the Sprague Machine, I feel that I cannot speak in too high terms of its merits as a first-class machine.

Yours, &c., ARLON MOWRY.

South Scituate, August 14th, 1870.

Wm. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gentlemen:—I received a note directed to me wishing me to give you some information in regard to the Sprague Mower. I must say I am highly pleased with it. I think it equal to any if not superior to any machine in use. I have tried mine thoroughly. I have seen others of the same make tested in our neighborhood, they all work to a charm, and I don't hesitate in saying that I will take my machine and go into the field with any other machine that is invented, days' work for days' work. I have mowed on intervale, it worked nicely. I have mowed two fields of oats for a neighbor, that was higher than my head, with patches of a rod square that lay nearly flat, and I cut them almost as smooth as a man can shave himself. The man that I mowed them for said he would not have believed that any man with scythe or machine could have cut them so smooth.

From your humble servant, JAMES T. BATTEY.

Greenville, R. I., August 10th, 1870.

Messrs. W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gents:—The Sprague Mower I purchased of you this season gave me perfect satisfaction. It is light draft, simple in construction, and I take pleasure in saying that I had no difficulty in using it, and recommend it as just the machine that is wanted on the rough and uneven farms of Rhode Island.

Respectfully yours, G. P. GRANT.

Pawtucket, R. I., August 16, 1870.

Messrs. W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gents:—The Sprague Mower purchased of you last June gave perfect satisfaction. I found it one of the best cutting machines I ever saw, both for lightness of draft and strength, and can safely recommend it to any one. I consider it in every respect unsurpassed, and would not exchange it for any other machine.

Yours respectfully, FRANCIS LEE.

Prudence Isle, August 12, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—I have used the Sprague Mower and would say I never saw a more perfect machine. In every respect it works perfectly.

JOEL TUCKER.

Douglas, Mass., August 22, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—I duly received your communication of the 19th inst., and in reply, would say that I have used the past summer one of your machines, with *perfect satisfaction.* I think it superior in all respects to any mowing machine I have used.

Respectfully yours, JOHN DUDLEY.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—I purchased a Sprague Mower the first of July, 1870, and used it during the season, cutting many acres of grass, some of a heavy burden and some light; some of the ground was level and clear, some rough, stony and hilly, and I can say it did adjust itself to all kinds perfectly. I used horses weighing 8½ cwt., and they worked it with perfect ease. I consider its draught very light, and it is also very easy to operate. I think the style and finish of the Sprague Mower superior to any that I have ever seen, and would say to brother farmers not to buy any mower until you have tried Sprague's Mower, as I believe it to be your interest,—it has worked like a charm with me.

Yours truly, J. M. ALDEN.

Providence, August, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—We believe from what we have seen of the "Sprague," that it excels in these particulars:—1st, simplicity and compactness of construction; 2d, durability; 3d, lightness of draft, being much less than any mower we have any knowledge of; 4th, completeness of finish in all its parts, and combining more points of excellence than any other machine.

MOREY LAPHAM.

Wickford, R. I., August 11, 1870.

Messrs. Wm. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gents:—The One Horse Sprague Mower, with four cutter bars, which I bought of you, works admirably. I have used it in various kinds of mowing, in very light, thin, fine grass; middling sized timothy and red top; very heavy clover, badly lodged; and marsh, both on rough and smooth land, and after cutting about forty tons of hay, without hav-

ing to expend a single cent for repairs, (and it has had some severe strains,) I have stored it away as good as new. Considering its strength, lightness of draft and simplicity of construction, I regard it a most *excellent machine*, therefore I take great pleasure in recommending it to farmers for general use.

Yours respectfully, B. H. LAWSON.

Pascoag, R. I., August 14, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gentlemen:—The Sprague Mower I bought of you worked admirably well, and I would recommend it as the cheapest and best working machine in use.

Yours truly, WM. R. WILSON.

Coventry, R. I., August 12, 1870.

W. E. Barrett & Co.,—I have used the Sprague Mower which I bought of you with entire satisfaction. I have mowed about fifty acres, some of which was stony and uneven. You can say to your customers that my machine has paid for itself this season.

Yours, &c., ANDREW BURLINGAME.

Cranston, R. I., August 27, 1870.

Messrs. W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gentlemen:—Your letter did not reach me until to-day, and I am happy to have an opportunity to say in answer, that the Sprague Mower is all I could wish it to be, and without desiring to take from the merits of the many good machines which I have used, from the first introduction of Mowers, I must be permitted to say, that in ease of draft, ease of management for man and team, and for the perfect manner in which it does its work under all circumstances, it has no equal in the market according to my judgment, and when its simplicity of construction and very low price are taken into consideration, I see no reason why every farmer in the land should not purchase a Sprague Mower.

Respectfully yours, ELISHA H. LAWTON.

Warwick Neck, August 25, 1870.

Messrs. W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gentlemen:—Your letter asking me how I like the Sprague Mower, is before me, and all I have to say is, that the Mower is the best I have ever seen run, and pleases me much. I have broken nothing and had no trouble of any kind with it. It is easy for man and team, strong, simple, and good enough for anybody. Yours truly, in haste,

BENJAMIN R. BARTON.

Centreville, August 11, 1870.

Messrs. W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gents:—I have been using a Sprague Mower that I purchased of you this season, and it has worked very well indeed. I think it the *best Mower, in all respects,* that I have ever seen. It cuts as well, is lighter draft, and much more simple, than any Mower I have seen.

Respectfully yours, JOHN GREEN.

Dorrville, September 2, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—Having purchased a Sprague Mower last July, and having cut some thirty acres of rough mowing I can cheerfully recommend it to all who wish a first-class machine. Its simplicity, light draft and durability of construction, the writer has not seen equalled.

SAMUEL SAUNDERS, Jr.

Johnston, August 20, 1870.

Messrs. W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gentlemen:—The Sprague Mower I bought of you pleases me, because it handles with ease, is of light draft, cuts nicely, is strong, simple, and always in order. What pleases me most is, that I saved enough on the price, as compared with the American, Clipper, or Buckeye, to purchase a good Wheeled Rake, and have a better Mower than either of them into the bargain. Yours in haste,

WM. H. MATHEWSON.

Portsmouth, R. I., August 13, 1870.

Messrs. W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gents:—Having used the Sprague Mower the present season, we would recommend it to the public for workmanship, simplicity, durability, and ease of draft, as being equal to any machine in use:

ALANSON PECKHAM, Middletown.
CONSTANT H. CHASE, Portsmouth.
EDWARD C. ARNOLD, Middletown.

New Bedford, Mass., Sept. 10, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gentlemen:—John Murray, of Acushnet, farmer for Wm. C. Taber, of this city, says of the Sprague Mower, it is the best, without exception, that he ever used, and were he in want of another Mower to-day would buy the Sprague, giving it the preference over all others.

Respectfully, JOHN E. ALMY.

New Bedford, Mass., 1870.

Mr. John E. Almy,—Dear Sir:—I beg leave to state that the Sprague Mower which I purchased of you has given me great satisfaction. My fields never looked so well after being mowed with other machines which I have heretofore employed as with the Sprague Mower. My team has not complained with the labor at all. I have had no expense of repairs, and find it very easy to manage, and considering it in all its points,—its strength, the perfection with which it does its work, lightness of draft and simplicity of management, I consider it preferable to any machine of my acquaintance. Yours truly,

WILLIAM C. FORD.

Bullock's Point, August 10, 1870.

Messrs. W. E. Barrett & Co.,—Gents:—The Sprague Mower which we had of you this season sustains every expectation which your recommendation raised. With it we have done our entire mowing of oats and grass, and for evenness of working and excellence of work done, in either heavy or light crops, we have never used its equal; at the same time, by the simplification of its machinery, it is both a safer and less expensive machine to run than any other we have seen, while the motive power required is from ten to twenty per cent. in its favor as compared with other favorite machines. All in all, we think it "the Mowing Machine" to buy. Yours respectfully,

J. N. DAVIS.

Scituate, Mass., August 19, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gentlemen:—In several respects I consider Sprague's Two Horse (four feet cut) Mower to be superior to any other of the same grade with which I am acquainted. After twelve or fourteen years' use of other machines I have been induced to purchase "Sprague's," and one season has convinced me of its superiority.

1st. It occupies but little space, and is easily put out of one's way.

2d. The labor of arranging it for work is trifling.

3d. The draft, even in heavy grass, is apparently less than that of most one horse (3½ feet) machines.

4th. It is more easily managed in turning, and in rough, stony ground, than any Mower I know.

5th. The machinery, which, in other Mowers, is exposed to dust, and other injurious substances, in Sprague's, is so perfectly enclosed that it is much less likely to be damaged by these means, besides there is less danger to the one who manages it.

6th. Sprague's Mower is certainly superior to most others in that it adjusts itself to the various angles of the surface we wish to mow with almost human intelligence. On account of these qualities, and others which might be named,

such as the simplicity of its construction and arrangement, the superior finish and quality of the scythes, &c., I do not hesitate to recommend Sprague's Mower to any one wishing to purchase an implement of the kind and find in it the value of his money.

D. DUNBAR.

Lisbon Falls, Maine, August 29, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gentlemen:—I have used one of your Mowing Machines the past season and cheerfully recommend it to all as a very compact, simply constructed machine, and one of the best mowers ever brought before the people. It works with less strain on the horses than any machine I have ever used or seen used, with less liability of breakage. I have tested it thoroughly, without accident or breakage, and cannot say too much in its favor. I can see no reason why it should not take the lead in the market.

ELBRIDGE G. BLETHEN.

Blackwoodtown, N. J., Sept. 15, 1870.

Messrs. E. S. & F. Bateman,—Gents:—At your request I tried the Sprague Mower in a piece of very heavy grass, cutting five full two-horse loads of hay from one acre of ground, timothy and clover, some of it being five feet high. This Mower surpasses any thing I have ever seen, (and I have seen all the first-class machines in the market,) while its simplicity, durability, ease of management, lightness of draft, together with the great reduction in price, must make it a decided success.

DAVID C. WOOD.

Upper Bern, Penn., 1870.

Daniel Baus, Agent,—Dear Sir:—The Sprague Mower I purchased of you I can with confidence recommend to all who are in need of a first class machine. In one day I cut with the machine twelve acres with two horses, and can assure you, as a gentleman, you will never regret the day if you should purchase one. My two neighbors have bought one, and they are highly satisfied. They will work with ease, and are strong machines. You can take them apart yourself, and you need not be afraid of them getting out of repair. I have a boy seventeen years of age that has worked my machine, and he never worked one before. Gentlemen, it never can be beat on rough land. If you wish to study your own welfare you will save a great deal by purchasing one. Do not be enticed to purchase any other, as I feel confident you will never regret the day you bought one that is so easy to work, durable and strong, and reasonable in price as well. Should any gentleman wish to have any further information concerning the machine, I should be happy to answer them with pleasure. I know several who have got them since I have, and they are highly satisfied.

Yours respectfully, ADAM BODDIGER.

Muscotah, Kansas, July 16, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—The Mower which was sent to Senator Pomeroy, of Kansas, has been used upon his farm, and gives *entire satisfaction*, being the finest machine of the kind ever run upon our prairies; at least it has received the praises of all who have seen it operate.

Yours truly, L. D. F. POMEROY.

Kendall Mills, Maine, Aug. 19, 1870.

Gerald & Allen,—Dear Sirs:—In regard to the Sprague Mower that I purchased of you last June, it has given good satisfaction. I have used it in light and heavy grasses, rough and smooth grounds, and I think that it cannot be beat for lightness of draft. I have used the "American," "Buckeye," and "Union," on the same ground, and consider none equal for lightness of draft and easy management.

Yours truly, GEORGE A. BUCK.

Portland, Maine, 1870.

Messrs. Perkins & Co., — Gentlemen: — Having tested the Sprague Mower on our farms in Westbrook, Me., during the past hay season, we are prepared to say that for durability and simplicity its equal is not, in our judgment, to be found in any other machine.

JOHN ALLEN,
WM. WALLACE.

West Gorham, Maine, Aug. 15, 1870.

Messrs. Perkins & Co., Portland, — Gentlemen: — I bought of Kimball Eastman, Esq., your Agent, a 4-foot cut Sprague Mowing Machine, and after giving it a fair trial I consider it *the best machine* made.

Yours truly, J. W. FILES.

Portsmouth, N. H., Aug. 22, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gentlemen:—Your Sprague Mower attracted a great deal of attention while I had it on exhibition, and many farmers were sorely disappointed in not being able to procure one this year, and quite a number declined purchasing any kind till they can get a Sprague.

Mr. E. P. Davis, of this place, who bought the only one you could spare me this year, informed me that many farmers came a great distance to witness the operation of his machine, and without exception, pronounced it the best machine for mowing grass in this part of the country. Mr. Davis says it is very light of draft compared with all others that he has tried, cuts the grass better, and is

stronger than any other. He was thrown off three times this season by the machine coming in contact with obstructions, and no part of it gave out.

Yours truly, JOHN A. LAMPHREY.

West Gorham, Me., Aug. 29, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—I have sold the Sprague Mowing Machine this season, and have seen them work during the haying season, and consider them the lighest draft and easiest working machine in use. The Buckeye machine has been extensively used in this section, and many farmers who have seen the working of the Sprague Mower consider it the *best ever seen.* We shall sell a good many machines another season.

KIMBALL EASTMAN.

Benton, Maine, Aug. 17, 1870.

Messrs. Gerald & Allen,—Gents:—The Sprague Mower which I purchased of you last July, has given entire satisfaction, proving to be all that you recommended in every respect. I have mowed on smooth and uneven surfaces, over stone heaps and among roots, and it did its work well in all places, and (with the exception of a single section) without breakage. It has been said that "there is a constant motion of the pole from one horse to the other," but it is not so. It is of light draft, has *no side draft*, and can be handled with ease.

As regards riding, a number have tried it who have used other leading machines, and they say, without an exception, that the Sprague Mower rides the best of any they ever tried. I think it will do as much work in the same time, do it equally as well, and with *less* fatigue to both horses and driver, as other machines of the same size now in use costing from twenty to thirty dollars more.

Yours truly, BENJ. L. REED.

Maine, August 19th, 1870.

Messrs. Gerald & Allen,—Gents:—I have tried the two horse Sprague Mower you sent me, and like the working of it very much. It is very light draft, easy to manage, and not liable to get out of order. I think it will give general satisfaction.

Yours truly, HENRY KNIGHT.

Elizabethtown, N. J., Feb. 5, 1871.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.,—Gents:—It gives me pleasure to say to you, in answer to your favor of the 24th ult., that I mowed with the Sprague Mower last season over one hundred acres, a large portion of which was stony, rough

and uneven, and although I have tried several other kinds of mowers I regard the Sprague, for lightness of draft, strength, compactness, durability and unprecedented simplicity, as yet unequalled, in fact, I will have no other for my use. It perfectly fulfills all demands, and I am confident that any farmer who may become as intimately acquainted with the good qualities of the Sprague Mower as I am, cannot fail to share my enthusiasm in its favor.

Yours truly, A. J. DURAND.

Christiana, Lancaster Co., Penn., Aug. 1, 1870.

Brinton Walter, Esq.,—My Dear Sir:—The Sprague Mower I purchased of you this season has given me entire satisfaction, and I take pleasure in recommending it to my friends as the best Mower in use. I cut all kinds of grass under the most difficult circumstances, and it did its work better and run *much easier* than any machine I have ever seen or tried, and I have used several. It is very light, simple, compact, strong and durable, and its working parts, like a watch, are all neatly secured from dust and dirt.

Yours truly, JOS. D. POWNALL.

We, the undersigned, having used Mr. Pownall's Sprague Mower, fully agree with his statements.

SAMUEL WHITSON,
B. H. POWNALL.

U. S. Senate Chamber, Washington, D. C., Dec. 6, 1870.

Hon. Mr. Sprague,—Dear Sir:—I embrace an early opportunity, after reaching Washington, not only to thank you for your great kindness in sending to me at my farm in Kansas, one of your celebrated *Mowers*, but also to say to you that I gave it a personal trial *and mowed with it myself!* and had an opportunity of comparing it with several other machines on my farm, and it gives me great pleasure to state, it is unequalled by any of them! The economical use of power, in a most compacted form, combining durability and strength, is the great achievement. As a Mower, I should desire nothing better, nor expect to find it. It should have a great sale among the prairie farmers of the great North West. I have the honor to be,

Very truly, S. C. POMEROY.

Harrisonville, Penn., Aug. 23, 1870.

J. T. Humphreys,—Dear Sir:—The Sprague Mower I purchased of you this season, has to me been a success, and it came up to my expectations in every particular. I have cut both heavy and light grass, and coarse meadow grass, and it has been equal to the emergency in every case.

WILLIAM MOORE.

Elmer, N. J., July 14th, 1870.

J. T. Humphreys,—Dear Sir:—I am glad to be able to speak of the merits of the Sprague Mower. The one I purchased cuts a swath of 4 feet 6 inches in width, and I am prepared to say, that it has, in every case, done excellent work and given entire satisfaction. It runs light, and is, comparatively speaking, no work for a team. Its neat appearance is highly commendable. In short, it is the neatest and best arranged Mower that I have ever seen.

E. DUNHAM.

Elmer, N. J., June 15th, 1870.

Messrs. S. A. Stevens & Co.,—Gentlemen:—I have seen the Sprague Mower in operation, and it works like a charm. I set two of them up yesterday, and had the satisfaction of seeing perfect work and my expectations fully realized. I am sorry I did not order fifteen in the start.

Respectfully, J. T. HUMPHREYS.

Elmer, N. J., July 10, 1870.

Messrs. S. A. Stevens & Co.,—Gents:—I purchased one of your Sprague Mowers from your agent at Elmer, N. J., (J. T. Humphreys,) and after testing it thoroughly, I can say without any hesitancy, it is the best Mower I ever used or ever seen used. It is very light draft. I can recommend it to all who wish to purchase a Mower.

JOSEPH C. CHARLES.

Porchtown, N. J., July 31, 1870.

Mr. J. T. Humphreys,—Dear Sir—I have cut seventy-five acres with the Sprague Mower this summer, and feel no hesitancy in saying it is the best Mower I have ever used, and believe it to be a great improvement over all others in use. It is simple, compact, thorough in its work, strong and able to perform where any other machine can work. In mowing for my neighbors I have had it on rough ground, among stumps and stones, bringing my horses up of a sudden, and in all this it has proved to be a superior machine.

THOS. W. DOWNS.

Mansfield, Ohio, July 25, 1870.

Hon. Wm. Sprague—Dear Sir:—Upon my return home I enquired into and saw for myself the workings of your Mower. I have a very good Mower, new last summer, and made here, early in the season for mowing it got out of order, and my farmer hitched into yours, and has used it ever since. He has cut with

it about twenty-five acres, some very heavy grass. It is lighter and runs with far less power than the Mansfield machine, is simple in its construction, does not get out of order, and on the whole, it is a better and more serviceable machine than those made here. I regret that it was not entered for competition with the great number of machines put on trial here by the State Board of Agriculture. It would be well for you next season to bring it into competition with the Western mowers, of which more are now made in Ohio than in all the other Western States.

Very truly yours, JOHN SHERMAN.

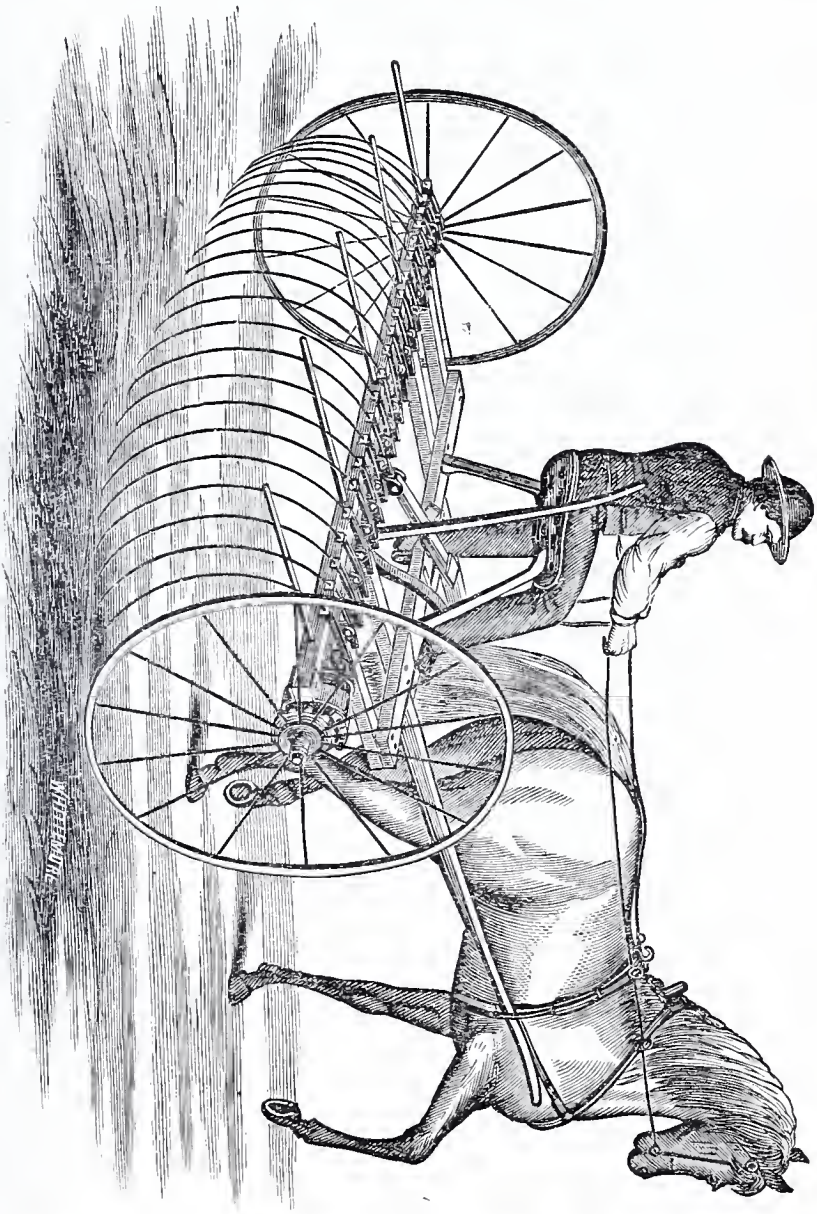
Reading, Penn., Nov. 5, 1870.

Sprague Mowing Machine Co.—Gentlemen:—We, the undersigned, have used the past season the Sprague Mowing Machine, and found it to work better in all kinds of grass, both wet and dry, than any we ever used, and our neighbors, who are also the owners of various machines, join in with us in saying that it is the best Mower they ever saw or used. We can not help but say that it has done more work than any other machine we ever used. We had no intention of purchasing one, but seeing that it performed more work than any other, we could not resist from getting the same.

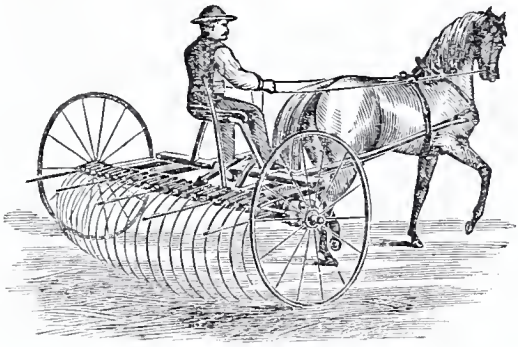
J. D. MILLER.

S. R. NYE'S

Bay State Improved



HORSE RAKE.



THE BAY STATE HORSE RAKE

Was Patented by S. R. Nye, in March, 1866, and January, 1869, and was awarded the

FIRST PREMIUM, A SILVER MEDAL,

At the Field Trial of the New England Agricultural Society at Amherst, Mass., in June, 1869.

During the past four years, such improvements have been made from time to time as experience has suggested, and very great improvements in the arrangement of the teeth have been made in the last year, and were patented in July, 1870. This Rake combines more good features than any other Rake. It is independent in its action, each tooth operating *entirely independent* of the others when passing an obstruction.

It is light draft, having high wheels, easy for the driver to ride on, and is operated entirely by the foot, and raised by a gear on the wheel. It requires only the pressure of a few pounds to throw it into gear, thus bringing it as completely under the control of a lad of a dozen years, as of a man that is worth three dollars a day. The teeth are not coiled as in all other wire tooth rakes, but are hinged to the axle (which entirely removes all danger of breaking,) and held down by a simple contrivance as shown in the cut. In case of breakage of a tooth from any cause, it can be removed and another inserted, by simply taking off and replacing one nut, without moving or interfering with any other tooth.

The peculiar arrangement of the Teeth, by which those at each side are brought forward of those of the centre, thereby preventing the hay from scattering or roping out when raking, and particularly when on side hills, or raking after the cart, and clearing fields, has been patented, and is *used only on the Bay State, and Bay State Improved.*

THE BAY STATE IMPROVED IS MANUFACTURED BY THE

BAY STATE HORSE-RAKE COMPANY,

AT WINCHENDON, MASS.,

And are made of the very best seasoned lumber and other material, and the work done in the most thorough manner under the direction of the Patentee, and every part warranted perfect.

Duplicates of all parts will be kept on hand by the Company, and furnished at reasonable rates.

Price of Rake Forty Dollars.

TESTIMONIALS.

FROM A LARGE NUMBER OF TESTIMONIALS THE FOLLOWING ARE PRESENTED:

State Agricultural College, Lansing, Mich., Aug. 31, 1870.

Bay State Horse-Rake Company,—Dear Sirs:—The Bay State Horse-Rake manufactured by your Company, has been in use on the College Farm the past two years, with the most satisfactory results. The past season we have had three of these Rakes in use, as we consider it superior to any other. For durability, facility of management, and quality of work, it cannot well be beaten.

Very respectfully, M. MILES, Prof. of Agriculture.

FROM THE HON. J. W. CHILDS.

Ypsilanti, Mich., July 9, 1870.

Bay State Horse-Rake Company,—Dear Sirs:—The Bay State Horse-Rake which you shipped to me June 17th, has just arrived, and I have to-day given it a trial, and find it fully equals my expectations, and I hesitate not to pronounce it, in my judgment, the best implement of the kind I have ever seen. Please inform me at what price you would furnish these to an Agent, and whether you would like to establish an agency here at Ypsilanti. I think it must sell first-rate here or any where, as it recommends itself to all who see it, and especially to those who see it work.

Yours very truly, J. WEBSTER CHILDS.

Baldwinville, Mass., Dec. 5, 1870.

Bay State Horse-Rake Company, Winchendon, Mass.,—Gentlemen :—We take pleasure in stating to you that we like the Horse-Rake which we purchased of you last July, very much. We have witnessed the working of many of the different Rakes now in use, but have seen no other that does its work with the ease and so effectually as yours.

Yours very truly, BAKER & WILSON.

Barre, Mass., Sept. 7, 1870.

Bay State Horse-Rake Company,— Winchendon, Mass.,—Gentlemen :—The Bay State Improved which I bought last July, I consider it the best Horse-Rake I have ever tried. My boy 12 years of age, can operate it as well as a man who receives three dollars a day.

Yours respectfully, J. S. LAMB.

Barre, Mass., Dec. 5, 1870.

Bay State Horse-Rake Company, Winchendon, Mass.,—Gentlemen :—You ask my opinion of your Bay State Improved Rake. I am happy to state that the one I bought of you last season does its work admirably, and I consider it the best Horse-Rake in every respect now in use.

WARREN BLANCHARD.

Barre, Mass., Nov. 16, 1870.

Bay State Horse-Rake Company,—Gentlemen :—My hay was raked with one of your Bay State Improved Rakes last season, and in my judgment it is the best Horse-Rake I ever saw.

E. H. EGERY.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PRIVATE INSTITUTION FOR FEEBLE MINDED CHILDREN, BARRE, MASS.

Barre, Mass., Dec. 22, 1870.

Bay State Horse Rake-Company, Winchendon, Mass.,—Gents :—The Rake I purchased of Mr. Elliott last Summer, is the perfection of an implement for gathering hay quick and easy. It must be a very dull minded man that cannot appreciate the benefit of having such a Rake, that his little boy or girl even, can use perfectly well, rather than one that a stout man must handle and sweat over. It runs easy for the horse, and will be useful wherever the surface will allow any rake to go.

Yours truly, GEO. BROWN, M. D.

Winchendon, Mass., Feb. 7, 1871.

Bay State Horse-Rake Company,—Gentlemen:—This certifies that I have owned and used the past season, the Nye Improved Bay State Horse-Rake, and having used nearly all the most approved Horse Rakes for years past, I feel safe in saying that the Nye Rake surpasses all others in simplicity of arrangement, ease of management, utility and efficiency.

SIDNEY FAIRBANK.

Athol, Mass., Dec. 23, 1870.

Bay State Horse-Rake Co., Winchendon, Mass.—Gents:—I am very much pleased with your Horse-Rake, and recommend it to the public as a valuable machine. Respectfully yours,

J. C. HILL.

The Sprague Mowing Machine Company

Will furnish the above Rakes in connection with their Mowers, and can recommend it as one of

THE BEST RAKES IN THE MARKET.